

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 01794 130654Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08  
FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04  
OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15  
STR-07 CEA-01 /108 W  
-----086465 130656Z /13

R 110900Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 311  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS TUNIS 1794

E.O.11652: NA  
TAGS: ELAB ECON TS

SUBJ: TUNISIA INSTITUTES LABOR CORPS SCHEME

1. ON MARCH 8N 1978, THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTED  
UNANIMOUSLY A PROPOSAL OUTLINED BY PRIME MINISTER MOUIRA  
DESIGNED TO MOBILIZE TUNISIA'S UNEMPLOYED YOUTH INTO A  
NATIONAL LABOR SERVICE. PERSONS BETWEEN 18 AND 30 WHO  
NEITHER ARE EMPLOYED NOR ENROLLED IN AN EDUCATIONAL FACILITY  
WILL BE SUBJECT TO CONSCRIPTION INTO THIS NEW SERVICE. IT  
IS ALSO OPEN TO VOLUNTEERS. REPORTEDLY EACH MEMBER WILL  
BE OBLIGED TO SERVE AT LEAST ONE YEAR, BUT HE MAY OBTAIN  
RELEASE IF HE OBTAINS OTHER EMPLOYMENT.

2. THE GOALS AND PRIORITIES OF THE PROGRAM, ACCORDING TO  
NOUIRA'S PRESENTATION BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ARE:  
--TO PROVIDE TUNISIAN UNEMPLOYED YOUTH WITH A  
VIABLE TRADE;  
--TO GIVE A SENSE OF CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY TO THE  
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YOUNG AND TO EQUIP THEM FOR TUNISIA'S  
DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS;  
--TO PROVIDE LABOR REQUIRED TO FULFILL CERTAIN  
PROJECT GOALS IN CURRENT 5-YEAR PLAN, FOR WHICH  
ADEQUATE AND WILLING MANPOWER HAS NOT BEEN FOUND.

3. FINANCING IS PROVIDED IN THE BUDGETS OF EXISTING PROJECTS

ALREADY APPROVED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.  
MUCH OF THIS NEW WORK FORCE WILL BE ENGAGED IN RETOYZS-  
TATION, PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.  
ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL WILL BE VESTED IN THE VARIOUS REGIONAL  
GOVERNORS. WHILE NOT SPECIFIED IN NOUIRA'S PRESENTATION,  
WE UNDERSTAND HABIB BOURGUIBA, JR. AND MOHAMED JOMAA, MINISTER  
OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS, HAVE RECENTLY INDICATED THAT FOCUS OF  
LAW WILL BE ON YOUNG MALES. RATES OF PAY AND WORKING  
CONDITIONS WILL APPROXIMATE THOSE OF SIMILAR EMPLOYMENTS.  
IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT LABOR CORPS WILL NOT WORK IN INDUSTRY,  
NOR WILL ITS MEMBERS BE ALLOWED TO JOIN UNIONS. THERE HAS  
BEEN NO INDICATION AS TO HOW MANY YOUTHS MIGHT BE BROUGHT  
INTO LABOR CORPS SCHEME.

4. COMMENT : GOT OFFICIALS STRESS THAT THIS PLAN HAS BEEN  
ONE THE STOVE FOR OVER TWO YEARS. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT  
THE RECENT CIVIL DISORDERS MOVED IT TO THE FRONT BURNER.  
THE TEXT OF THE LAW ITSELF IS DUE TO BE PUBLISHED IN  
OFFICIAL GAZETTE WITHIN A FEW DAYS. ABOVE IS DRAWN FROM  
STATEMENTS MADE BY NOUIRA AND OTHER GOT OFFICIALS.  
MULCAHY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TUNIS01794  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780111-0211  
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**From:** TUNIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** c6bf18c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3359260  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TUNISIA INSTITUTES LABOR CORPS SCHEME  
**TAGS:** ELAB, ECON, TS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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